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the brain and oblongata. 1. The intellectual tracts and centres which atrophy in case of a primary affection of the intellect. 2. Association tracts between the intellectual centres and the reflex arcs, *i. e.* the pyramidal tracts and the lemniscus. 3. The reflex arcs, a continuation of the centres in the cord, *i. e.* the primary centres of the nerves arising in the oblongata, and their connections with one another. The so-called secondary degeneration never passes from the psychical system (1) to the reflex system (3). In consequence of the lesion of one system, another centre of the same system atrophies only when there is connection through the axis cylinder prolongation. Within the same system the ganglion cells also atrophy. The author supports his views by evidence from embryology and comparative anatomy.

Ueber die Schwankungen in der Entwicklung der Gehirngefäße und deren Bedeutung in physiologischer und pathogenetischer Hinsicht.
L. LOEWENFELD. Arch. f. Psychiatrie und Nervenkr. XVIII, 3, S. 819.

Neither the weight of the brain nor the convoluting of its surface is to be considered as reliable expressions of intellectual development, for they are modified by the length and weight of the body and the thickness of the cortex. To these L. adds another factor, namely, the blood supply considered as the index of the nutrition of the brain. L. compared the section of the basilar carotids and vertebrales, the weight of the brain and the section of the aorta on 200 brains. On the 122 brains which had normal vessels it was plain that within the limits of health there was considerable variation in the section of the basilar vessels, the relative diameter of blood-vessel for each 100 grm. of brain varying between 0.175 and 0.315 cm. The average size of the vessels increases somewhat with age. Between the section of the aorta and that of the basilar vessels there is no constant relation. The capability of continuous exertion and the development of talent depends not only on the other acknowledged factors, but also on the development of the blood-vessels of the brain. It may be added that the carotids were found 12 times alike, and 31 times with the right, 49 times with the left, the larger.

Clinical Lecture on Paralysis of the Fifth Cranial Nerve. D. FERRIER.
The Lancet, 1888, No. 3358, p. 1; Gaz. Med. de Paris, 1888, No. 4, p. 37.

The case discussed was an isolated total paralysis of the fifth, on the right side, resulting from an injury to the head. The innervation of the palate remained intact, so that the view of Vulpian, and Beever and Horsley, that the azygos uvulae and tensor palati have no connection with the fifth, demonstrated on animals, is found true for man. The absence of hyperacusis for high tones, as well as the absence of a subjective sensation of buzzing in the ear, is taken by F. as an indication that the tympanum is not innervated by the fifth. The ophthalmia on the same side F. holds to be neuro-paralytic, considering that it is caused by the inflammatory excitation of nerve fibres which are not specifically different from motor, secretory and sensory fibres, and not by separation from a trophic centre. On the two anterior thirds of the tongue the sense of taste

was on the right side wanting, while on the posterior third, on that side, it was apparently reduced. During convalescence the sense of taste and contact returned, while the second branch of the trigeminus was still anaesthetic; and since there were no symptoms due to the injury of the facialis and the glossopharyngeus, F. contests the current view concerning the course of the gustatory fibres, and concludes that the latter pursue either the course designated by Schiff, through the corda tympani, ganglion oticum, the third branch of the fifth, and so to the brain, or never enter the corda tympani (Bernard), but pass in the third branch of the trigeminus without leaving it.

Les troubles moteurs du cerveau. FR. FRANCK. Extrait d'un livre qui paraîtra prochainement à la librairie Doin: Leçons sur les fonctions motrices du cerveau. 1 Vol., 8°. Rev. Scientif. 1887, XXXIX, 25, p. 788. Autoreferat.

The author briefly reviews the results of experimental physiology on this point. He lays much weight on the increase in both the intensity and duration of the phenomena following extirpation as we ascend in the animal scale. In monkeys that gradual recovery is wanting which in dogs takes place to a certain degree. Seeking by clinical-anatomical methods to establish the extent of the motor centres in man, he confines them to the gyri centrales and to the lobulus paracentralis, in this agreeing closely with Nothnagel, who recently investigated the subject by the same methods.

Zur feineren Structur der Nervenfasern. JOSEPH. Verhandl. d. physiolog. Gesellschaft zu Berlin, Jan. 20, 1888, Nos. 5 and 6.

In repeating Kupffer's studies on the fibrillar structure of the axis cylinder in the nerve fibre J. has made use of methods slightly modified from those of Kupffer. In the medullary sheath J. finds a network which he identifies with the neurokeratin framework of Ewald and Kuehne. This framework is not considered as anything preformed, but merely as the expression of a substance other than the myeline which takes its marked form under the action of reagents. All the samples which he has thus far tried have not resisted the action of digesting reagents, and thus fail to agree with the substance described by Ewald and Kuehne. As regards the axis cylinder, he substantiates Kupffer's description of the fibrillae, but takes exception to the designation of the interfibrillar as a nerve serum. J. describes the fibrillae as held in the meshes of a fine network. These studies were largely made on the electric nerves of *Torpedo marmorata*.

II.—EXPERIMENTAL.

In March last the writer of this note received a clipping from *Science* on "Sound Blindness," with a marginal note from Dr. G. S. Hall, saying: "Can you look into this subject?" Permission to enter the public schools for the purpose was granted by the Boston School Board, and, standing on the teacher's platform, the following words were pronounced, after testing the pitch and loudness of voice by a few words addressed to the master who stood at the opposite side of the room: ultramarine, altruistic, frustrate, ultimatum, ulu-